

2/5

Application No. 09/631,271

Atty Docket: LTWD 1001-1

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS, please delete the paragraph in its entirety, replacing it with the paragraph shown below:

~~Not applicable~~ This application claims the benefit of provisional Application No. 60/146,877, filed August 3, 1999, entitled "Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometer for Process Diagnostics and Control".

On page 4, beginning at line 16 and continuing onto page 5, through line 4, please replace the paragraph as shown below:

(b) Power coupling or matching of power into a plasma generator is the use of electrical components to match the electrical characteristics of a plasma to its power supply. The appropriate choice enables the efficient transfer of electrical energy into the plasma. The electrical characteristics required to initiate a plasma are different from those required for its steady state operation. Dependent on the operating requirements of the plasma more complex methods of matching may be required. U.S. patent ~~430475~~ Patent 4306176 to Schleicher (1981) demonstrates a movable graphite piece which is required for plasma ignition, and then removed during analysis. The igniter internal to the vacuum vessel is required to start an arc or plasma current. When the arc has been created the electrical impedance of the gases is lowered. U.S. Patent 5,949,193 to Roine also uses an internal rod as an electrode for plasma ignition.